4 PROUD DAYS

Gladys R. Saxon

FOUR PROUD DAYS

by Gladys R. Saxon

Once upon a time there was a brand new boat named The Queen. No imaginary boat this! The Queen was a real packet boat which sailed between Bridgeport, Connecticut, and Port Jefferson, Long Island.

This wonderful packet boat was owned by a very proud captain who had a young son. Captain Abner Snow, the first Captain Snow, said when The Queen was launched,

"By the buttons on my jacket, The Queen will always be a packet—and nothing else."

Then his small son said,

"And nothing else."

This was The Queen's first proud day—the day she set out carrying food and clothes from the big city to the island. The Queen was very busy and always had lots to do. After many years, the first Captain Snow retired and his son took over The Queen.

(*Continued on back flap*)

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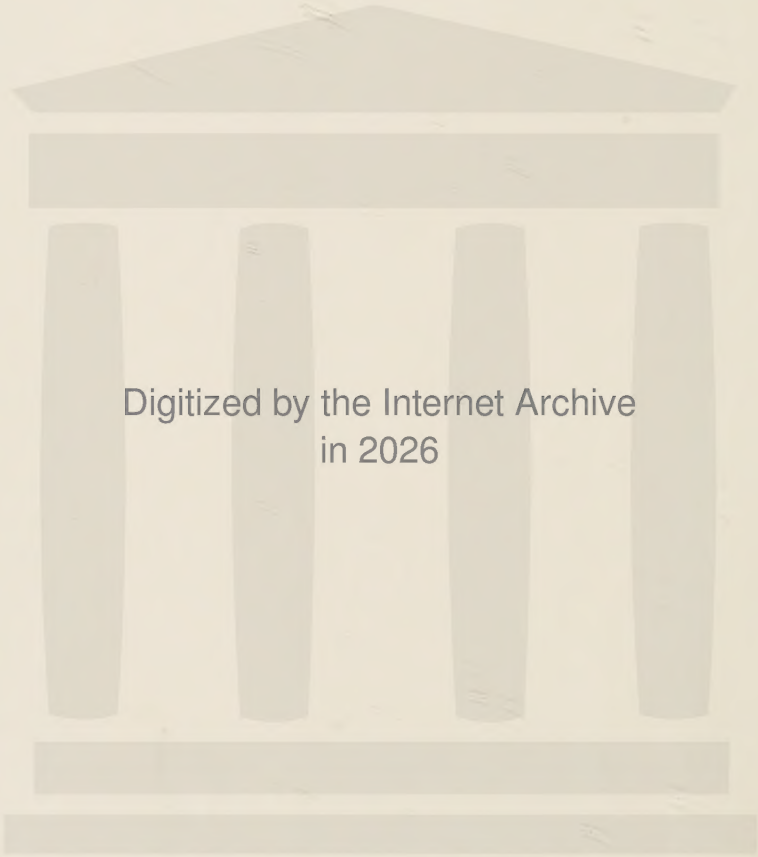

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Illustrations by
Peter Fellin

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4 PROUD DAYS

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STEAMER
for
LONG ISLAND
"ZOO"
THE QUEEN

Whistles blew,
bells rang,
people shouted!

The brand new packet, the *Queen*,
was ready for her first trip to the Island.
How beautiful she looked, all blue and white!
Tooooooot, she blew her whistle
to say goodbye to the people on Big City dock.

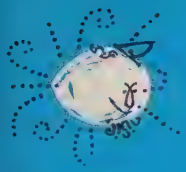
Captain Abner Snow, the first Captain
Snow, said in a proud voice,
"By the buttons on my jacket,
the *Queen* will always be a packet—
and nothing else!"
His small son said, "And nothing else."

That was the *Queen*'s FIRST PROUD
DAY.

The first Captain Snow kept the *Queen* busy.
She carried machines from Big City factories.

She carried clothing and food from Big City stores.

She carried fish and clean sand
from the Island to Big City.

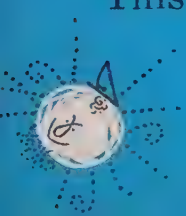


She carried people on picnics.

She carried people on business.

She carried horses and carriages

and now and then a horseless carriage.
This went on for many years.



The first Captain Snow became tired.
His small son had grown up.
He had a small son of his own.

So came THE SECOND PROUD DAY.

Whistles blew,
bells rang,
people shouted!

The *Qucen* was ready to leave
Big City with new oil engines
instead of the old coal engines.

The second Captain Snow
said to his small son,
"By the buttons on my jacket,
our *Queen* will always be a packet—
and nothing else!"

His small son said,
"And nothing else!"

The second Captain Snow
kept the *Queen* busy, too.

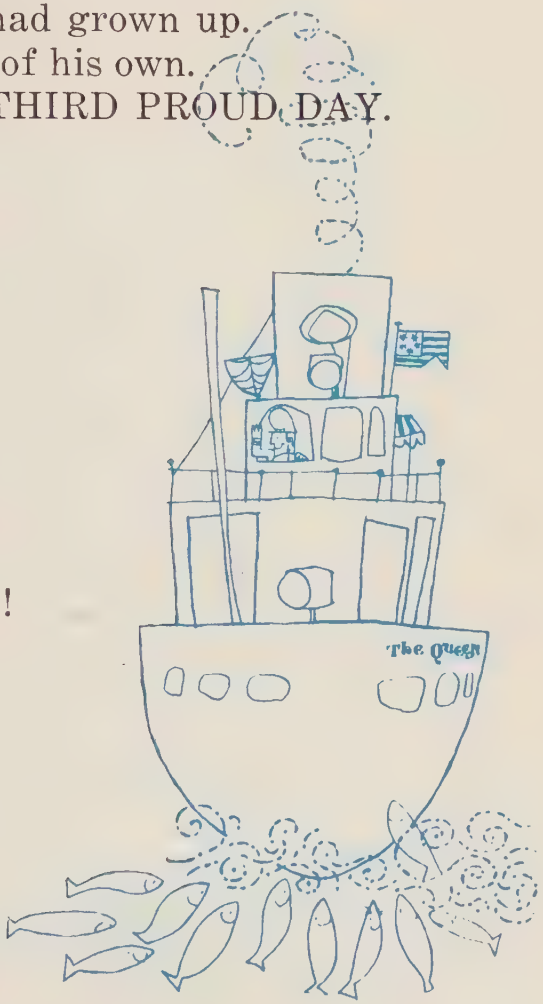
She carried everything
that she had carried before
except for one thing.

She did not carry horses and carriages.
She carried cars.

This went on for many more years.

The second Captain Snow became tired.
His small son had grown up.
He had a small son of his own.
So came THE THIRD PROUD DAY.

Whistles blew,
bells rang,
people shouted!



Now on Big City dock,
the first and the second Captain Snow
waved to the third Captain Snow
and his small son.

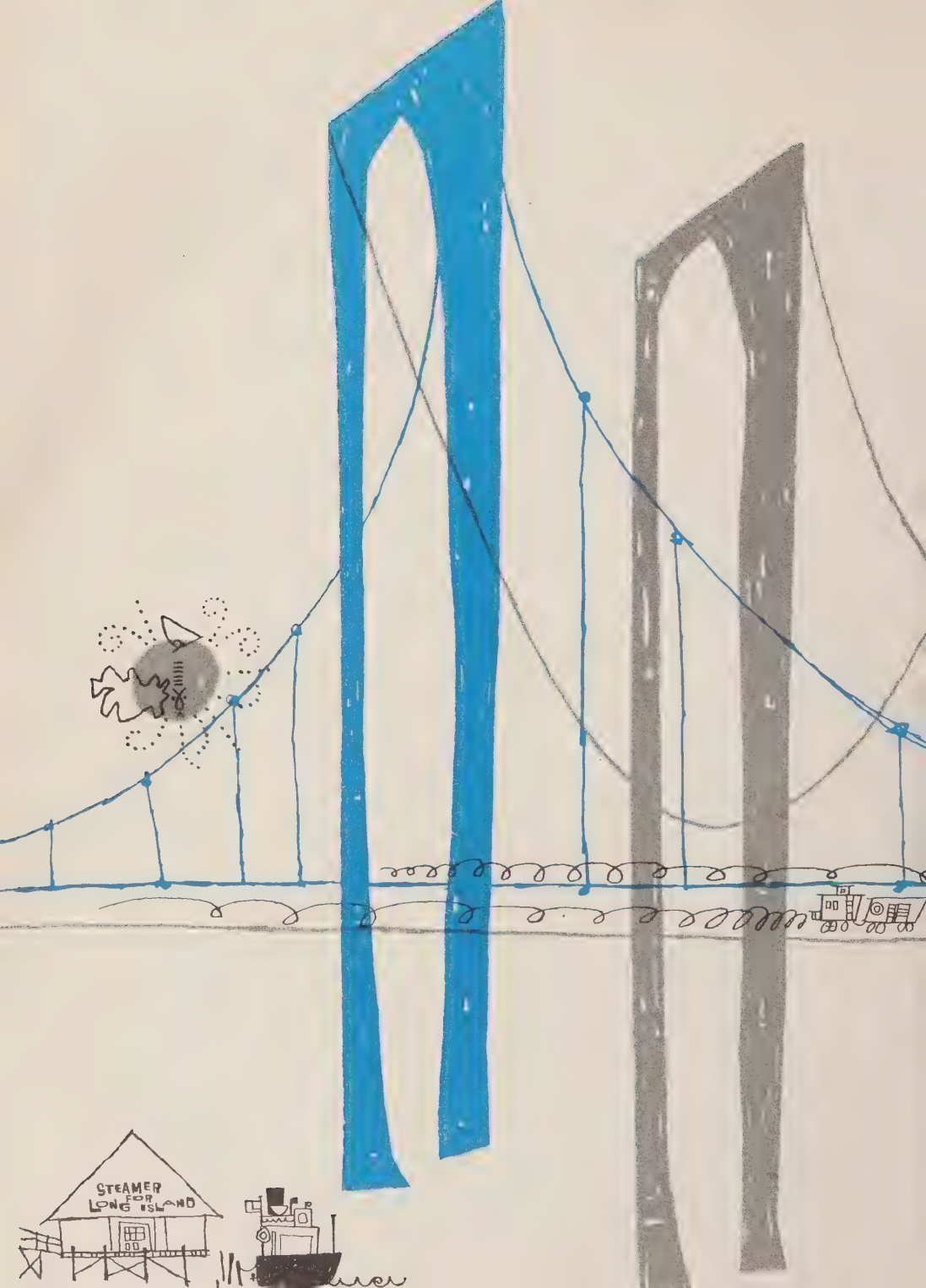
As before,
the new Captain Snow said,
"By the buttons on my jacket,
our *Queen* will always be a packet—
and nothing else!"
His small son, Andrew, said,
"And nothing else!"
At first things went as before.
The *Queen* kept busy
going back and forth across the Sound
each day. She had good loads.
Then came a sad sad time.
A bridge was built
between Big City and the Island.

Now the *Queen* was too slow
for the factories and stores.
She was too slow for the fishermen
and the men at the sand quarry.
She was too slow for most picnickers.
She was too slow for the businessmen.

Now only a few people
used the *Queen*. Others traveled
by car or train or plane.

Now most goods went
by car or truck or train.

It was indeed a sad sad time
for the *Queen* and her three Captain Snows.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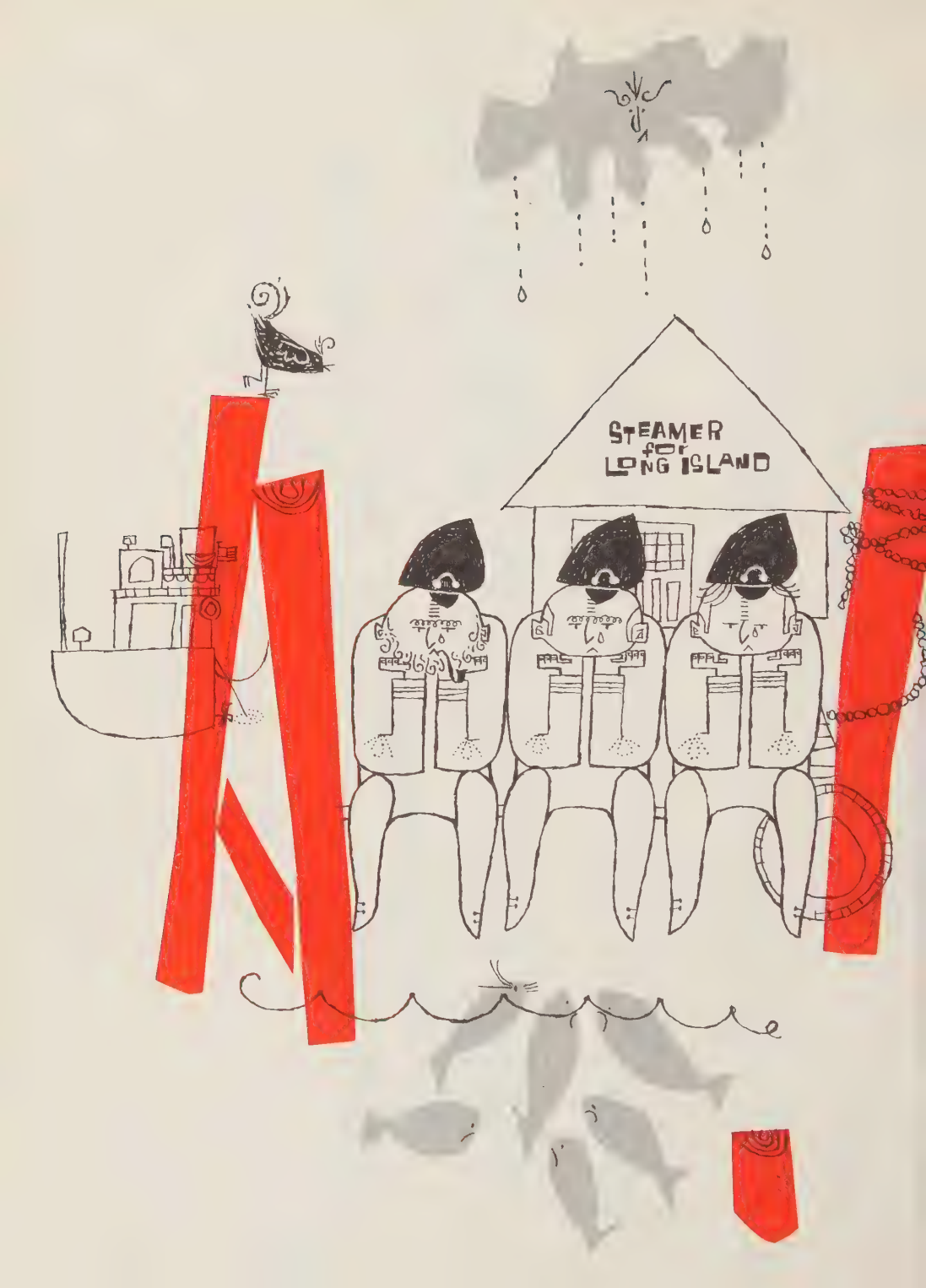
FOR
LONG ISLAND

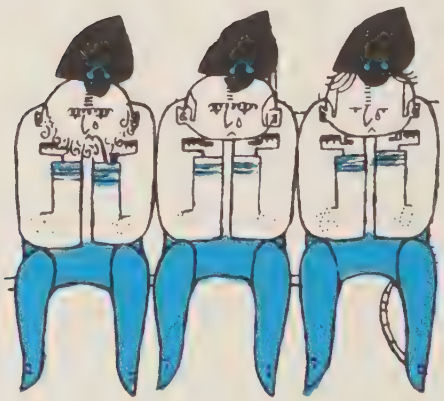

STEAMER
for
LONG ISLAND

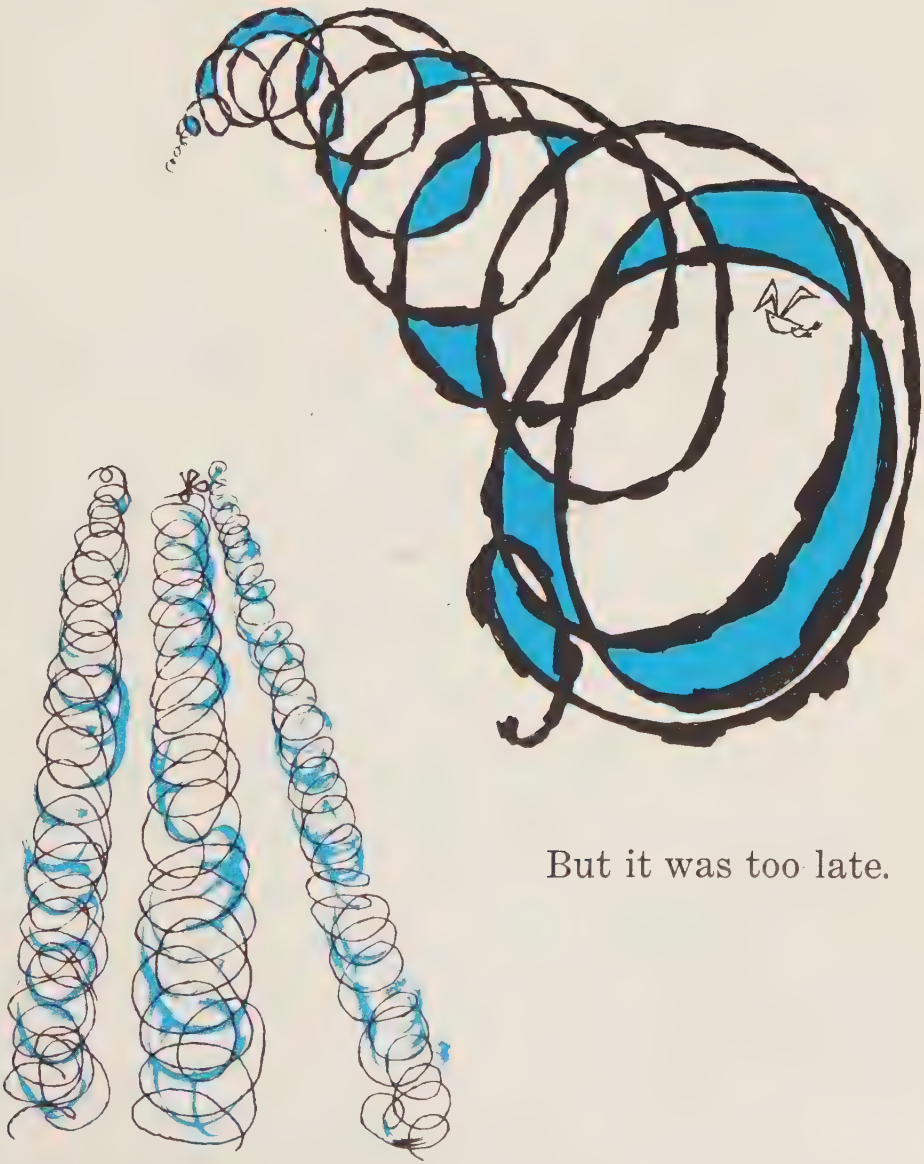
One day a man came from Louisiana.
He said, "I want the *Queen*
for my shrimp fleet."
The first Captain Snow said,
"Our *Queen* a shrimp boat? NEVER!"
The second Captain Snow said,
"Our *Queen* not a packet? NEVER!"
The third Captain Snow said,
"Our *Queen* not on the Sound? NEVER!"
But Andrew said,
"I think it would be fun
to be captain of a shrimp boat."
The three Captain Snows looked at him.
They looked at each other.
They looked at the *Queen*.
They said nothing for a long time.
At last, they told the man from Louisiana
that the *Queen* would join the shrimp fleet.
The man was happy.
But the three Captain Snows
were not at all happy.
Neither were their wives.

It was a sad sad load that the *Queen*
carried down to Louisiana—
except for Andrew and his sister Beth.

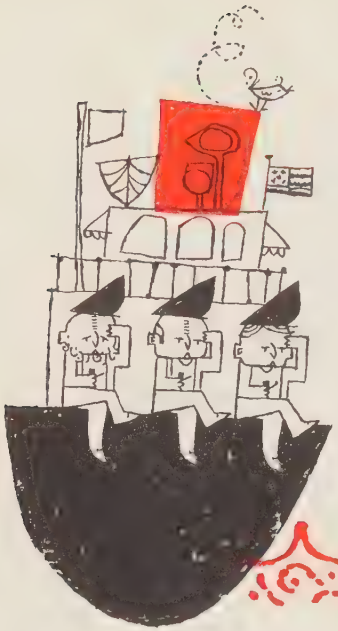
They had fun seeing the states
go by. They had fun catching fish.
They had fun learning more about the *Queen*.

When the *Queen* was close
to Louisiana, the three Captain Snows said,
"We will go back.
Our *Queen* will always be a packet—
and nothing else!"





But it was too late.



There was music coming across the water.
There were boats bright with flags.
There were crowds on the banks.

Whistles blew,
bells rang,
people shouted!

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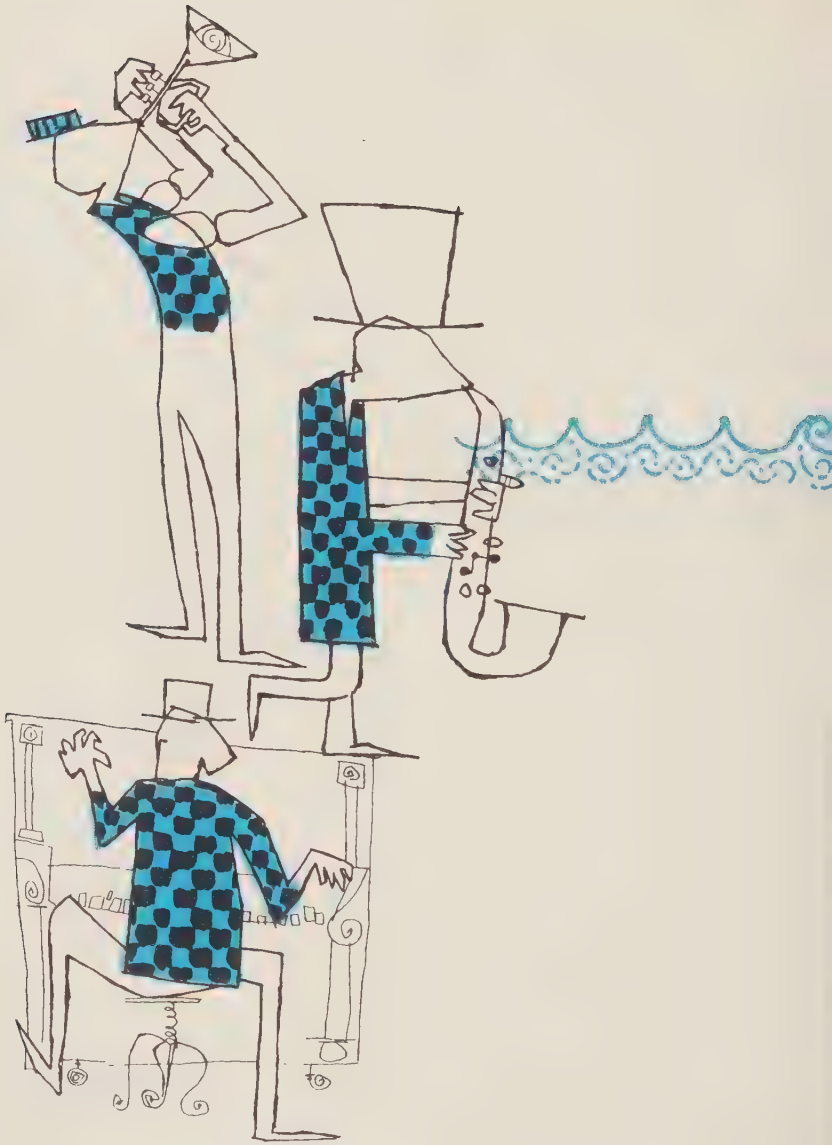
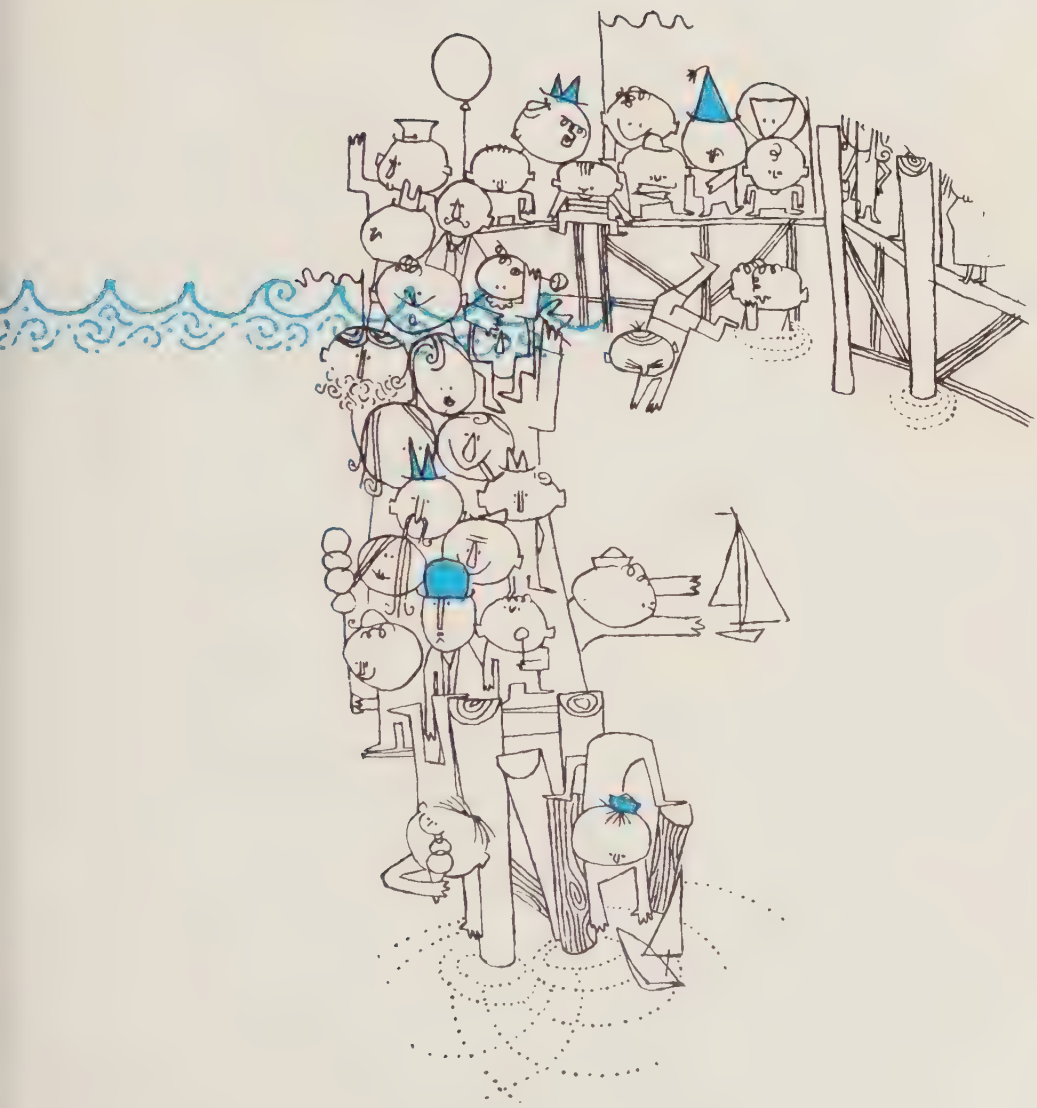
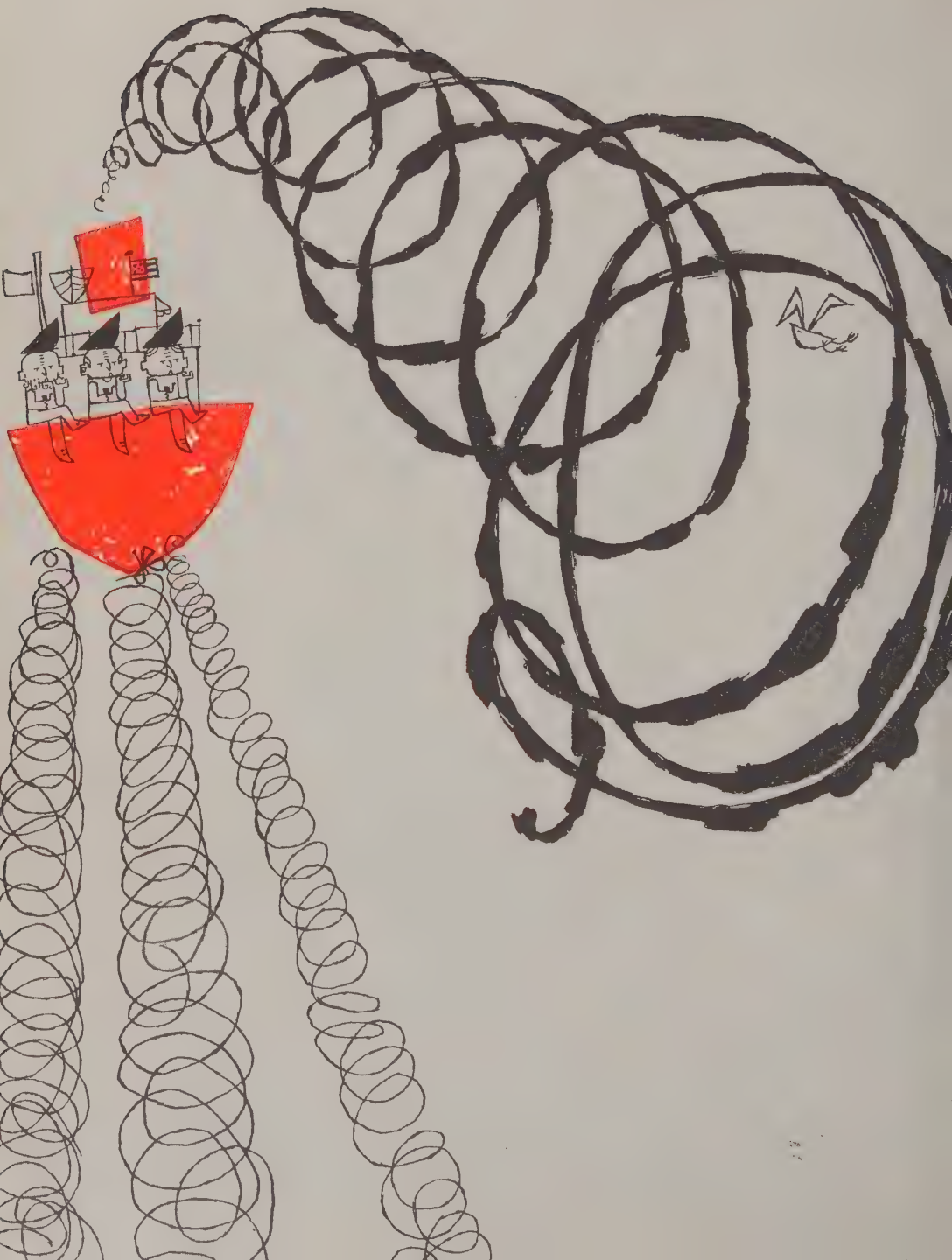


"Hooray for the *Queen*!" they said.
"Hooray for our new shrimp boat!"
This was THE FOURTH PROUD DAY.





The three Captain Snows knew
that it was the fourth proud day.
Their wives knew it.
And of course, Andrew and Beth knew it.

They all waved to the people.

The first Captain Snow said,
"Being busy is the important thing."

The second Captain Snow said,
"Being useful is the important thing."

The third Captain Snow said,
"Being ready for new work is the important thing."

Andrew said to Beth,
"I know I will like being
the fourth Captain Snow
when I grow up!"

(*Continued from front flap*)

And this was their second proud day.

As time passed, the second Captain Snow's own son grew up and was able to run The Queen. This was their third proud day. But then problems arose and it became difficult for The Queen to keep her hold filled with things to be carried from the big city to the island and back again.

So the three Captain Snows made plans to turn The Queen into a shrimp boat and move her down to Louisiana.

Gladys Saxon's charming tale of The Queen and her *Four Proud Days* is a wonderful story for young readers.

Ages 6-8

A WONDERFUL WORLD BOOK

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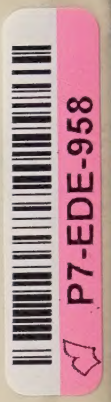
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OTHER WONDERFUL WORLD BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

GEORGE AND THE FEROCIOUS FERBLUNDGET

IRVING BLOCK

Illustrated by Florence Jacks

George had had one of those very bad days and ran off to his secret place in the woods for a little while. But a very grouchy Ferblundget who didn't like people had taken over George's secret place. George had his Satellite Launcher with the Atomic Rubber Suction Cups and he was almost ready to FIGHT—but there were problems. How George solved his problems, and learned that having friends is a good thing, is told in this unusual and charming story. It is a story with a lesson—a story every child should know.

THE LITTLE DUCKS WHO SWAM AWAY FROM HOME

VIRGINIA W. STRUBLE

When Little Brown Duck and Little White Duck left their cozy barnyard one day to search for food in the meadow, they planned to be away only long enough to find a few juicy grasshoppers and bugs. But they got lost in the woods, and met the Wood Ducks who made fun of them because they could not fly and because they would not grow up to have beautiful colored feathers. White Duck and Brown Duck stayed at the lake, practiced flying, and learned how to live in the woods. One day White Duck saved the life of Mr. Wood Duck, and won the respect of all the wild ducks.

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